

[English]

**Alleged Irregularities in Distribution of Steel to Traders by Delhi Sales Office**

5093. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR KANODIA;  
SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the top twenty consuming units who have been allotted steel items by the Branch Sales office of SAIL, New Delhi during the last two years, quarterly to each such units quantity-wise and item-wise;

(b) the criteria adopted by SAIL, New Delhi for allotment of steel items to various consuming units/traders;

(c) whether any irregularities in distribution of steel have come to the notice of the Government during above period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Business ethics do not permit SAIL to make public the details of the materials supplied to its customers, individually.

(b) SAIL, including its Delhi Branch Sales Office, supplies steel items to the different categories of customers in terms of the extant Distribution Guidelines of the Joint Plant Committee (JPC). Traders can lift such items of steel as are put under "Free Sale Notice" from time to time, at JPC/stockyard prices, in terms of the terms and conditions of such sales.

(c) and (d). Certain allegations of irregularities in the distribution of steel were re-

ceived in the last two years and those allegations were inquired into from time to time. The Government have no evidence to hold that irregularities had been committed in the distribution of steel by BSO, SAIL, New Delhi, during the above period, in terms of the distribution guidelines of the JPC.

**Opening of Electronic Telephone Exchange at Patan in Gujarat**

5094. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR KANODIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to install an electronic telephone exchange at Patan in Gujarat and also propose to provide STD facility there;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). A new Crossbar type telephone exchange (not electronic) of 3000 lines capacity is planned to be commissioned at Patan in 1992-93. STD facility is already available from Patan.

[Translation]

**New Telephone Connections During 1992**

5096. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the number of new telephone connections likely to be provided in the country during 1992, state-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): 7 lakh new telephone connections are planned to be provided during the financial year 1991-92. The